

SUMMARY

HA-265

Union Chapel United Methodist Church
1012 Old Joppa Road
Joppa, Maryland 21085

Union Chapel United Methodist Church, incorporated in 1821, originally served Episcopalians, Quakers, Christians, and Methodists until 1834 when all but the Methodists had dispersed to other parts of Harford County. The original trustees were Rhesa Norris, Beale H. Richardson, John Norris, Benjamin Richardson, William Dimmitt, Ralph S. Lee, and Edward Norris. The one-story log chapel that is thought to have been the original one was moved to the Lee Magness farm on Whitaker Mill Road in 1948.

The present structure was dedicated in 1900. Although it looks much like the patterns put out by the Methodist Board of Church Extension in the last quarter of the 19th century, it may have been designed by architect Harry Norwood.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAMEHISTORIC
Union Chapel United Methodist Church

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATIONSTREET & NUMBER
1012 Old Joppa Road (North side of Old Joppa Road, north of Md. Rt. 152) nr. Joppa

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

VICINITY OF

STATE

COUNTY

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTYNAME
Union Chapel United Methodist Church

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

1012 Old Joppa Road

CITY, TOWN

Joppa, Maryland

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code
21085**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Harford County Courthouse

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

40 South Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Bel Air, Maryland 21014

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

Feb. 1961

CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT
☒ GOOD
☐ FAIR
☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☐ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Union Chapel United Methodist Church, a Gothic one-story, el-shaped frame church with a 1-1/2 story modern addition, is located on the northwest side of Old Joppa Rd., east of Md. Rte. 152.

Set on a low stone foundation, the church has a bell tower with a sexagonal flared cap and balcony with spindle brackets and turned balusters in the inside of the ell, which faces the road. The tower and body of the church are sheathed in German siding, while the gables are covered in scalloped shingles. Windows have 1/1 sash with colored glass and pointed arches. The roof, with wide exposed eaves, has a cross gable with a diamond-shaped window on the west side and a 5-sided bay window beneath that flanked by 1/1 sash windows, while the east side has just one 5-part window. Each side of the inside of the ell has 1 1/1 window and the tower has 2 entrances with tripartite transoms in the north and east sides with round windows mid-way up the tower.

The cornerstone is inscribed "b. 1821 rebuilt 1899".

The interior has an entrance vestibule and, with the possibility of partitioning off the east end, one large el-shaped room. The chancel on a raised platform is in the west end and the pews are arranged in a semi-circular shape. The ceiling and wainscot have narrow beaded boards, and there are 3 ornamental wooden screens in the gable peak.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

A.A. 115

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Union Chapel United Methodist Church, which originally served Episcopalians, Quakers, Christians, and Methodists, was incorporated on January 30th, 1821, by the Maryland General Assembly. On May 31st, 1821, Benjamin Richardson and John Norris sold a 90 perch lot of the tracts, "Timber Hill" and "Prospect", to Alexander Norris who, on June 2nd, sold that lot "with the Union Chapel thereon erected" to the Board of Trustees of the Union Chapel. Of those original trustees, Rhesa Norris and Beale H. Richardson were Methodists; John Norris, Benjamin Richardson, and William Dimmitt (of Baltimore County) were Episcopalians; and Ralph S. Lee and Edward Norris were Quakers. When a vacancy occurred on the Board, each denomination was re-filled. The Episcopalians moved to Kingsville and Bel Air, the Quakers moved to Fallston in 1828, and the Christians to Franklinville in 1834, so within a decade of its incorporation Union Chapel became a Methodist Church.

What is said to have been the original building, a 1-story gable roofed log structure measuring 22' by 36', was moved to the Lee Magness farm on Whitaker Mill road in 1948. An old photograph shows that it was 3 bays long and 1 bay wide, sheathed in clap-boards and German siding, with 9/9 windows and louvered shutters, and a brick interior chimney with a corbelled cap in the center of one side. The entrance with a round-arched louvered (shuttered?) opening above it was located in one end. One description states that the log chapel "had a very high pulpit, over which was inscribed the words 'How Amiable Are Thy Tabernacles, Oh, Lord of Hosts'". It was furnished with rude wooden benches so rigidly upright as to guarantee complete wakefulness on the part of the congregagion throughout the entire service." That same description notes the presence of a gallery for slaves at the rear of the chapel.

The present structure was constructed in 1899 during the joint pastorate of Rev. S. B. Tredway and Rev. C. M. Complier. The architect's specifications call for dressed pine sheathing and cypress shingles "sawed fancy", as well as a "cornerstone marble 12X12X24 with inscription on with hole cut out in bottom for tin box 6"X6"X5" deep." The building committee consisted of the 2 ministers and Alphonso Robinson (treasurer), Isaac Sanner, J. W. Archer, S.S. Bevard, George Archer, J. T. Norris, D. T. Archer, and Dr. C. Bagley, and dedication services were held on March 25, 1900.

According to one newspaper article, the building was supposed to be 45 by 32 feet with a lecture room measuring 23 by 26 feet and a 70-foot tower, erected at a cost of \$4700. The church also has an unsigned agreement between the building committee and a contractor, James L. Norwood and Son of Baltimore County, to construct a building conforming to the drawings and specifications made by Harry M. Norwood for a cost of \$3308.

(See continuation sheet #1)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

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9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Land Records of Harford County
Wright, C. Milton, Our Harford Heritage, 1967
Program for the Dedication Service of the Memorial Marker to the Original
Union Chapel; 9/19/48
Article in the Sunday Sun, 7/31/1921

(See Continuation Sheet #1)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Natalie Shivers, Historic Site Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Harford County Department of Planning and Zoning

DATE

8/80

STREET & NUMBER

45 South Main Street

TELEPHONE

838-6000 x 207

CITY OR TOWN

Bel Air, Maryland..

STATE

21014

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

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Union Chapel United Methodist Church

8. Statement of Significance

(Continuation Sheet #1)

The church looks much like the plans for Methodist Churches published by the Methodist Board of Church Extension which assisted congregations with erecting and financing their church beginning in 1877, and indeed Union Chapel may have been modelled on a pattern.

1. Liber HD 5, Folio 55
2. Sunday Sun, July 31, 1921
3. Sunday Sun, July 31, 1921

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Union Chapel United Methodist Church

9. Major Bibliographical References

(Continuation Sheet #1)

Article in the Aegis, "The Centennial of Union Chapel, 8/5/1921

Book of Clippings compiled by C. D. Norris, begun 5/5/1867

Interview with Ruth Burns 8/14/1980

MD. HISTORICAL TRUST
BOX 1704
ANNAPOLIS, MD. 21404

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	
COUNTY:	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME	
COMMON: <i>Union Chapel, Wilna</i>	
AND/OR HISTORIC:	

2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: <i>North side of Old Joppa Road about 0.3 mi east of</i>			
CITY OR TOWN: <i>Joppa</i> <i>Mountain Road (Me 152)</i>			
STATE: <i>Maryland</i>	COOE	COUNTY: <i>Harford</i>	COOE

3. CLASSIFICATION			
CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input type="checkbox"/>	Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Both</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered <input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Occupied</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/> Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Restricted</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No: <input type="checkbox"/>
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/>	Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum <input type="checkbox"/>	Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Religious</i> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Scientific <input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/> Comments <input type="checkbox"/>

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY			
OWNERS NAME: <i>Union Chapel Methodist Church</i>			
STREET AND NUMBER: <i>Fallston</i>			
CITY OR TOWN: <i>21047</i>	STATE:	CODE	

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION			
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT			
STREET AND NUMBER: <i>HARFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE</i> <i>40 S. MAIN ST.</i>			
CITY OR TOWN: <i>BEL AIR</i>	STATE: <i>MARYLAND</i>	CODE	
APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:			

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS			
TITLE OF SURVEY:			
DATE OF SURVEY: Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local <input type="checkbox"/>			
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
CITY OR TOWN:	STATE:	CODE	

STATE:
COUNTY:
ENTRY NUMBER
DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

INSTRUCTIONS

Traces:
Union Chapel

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	Excellent <input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Good</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Fair <input type="checkbox"/>	Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/>	Ruins <input type="checkbox"/>	Unexposed <input type="checkbox"/>
INTEGRITY	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	Altered <input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Unaltered</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Moved <input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Original Site</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

their second church building on this plot of land ~~was~~ is frame construction on granite foundations, cruciform in shape with the steeple over the entrance doors at the southeast corner of the cross. White clapboard below the eaves, dark shingle in the gable ends, the steeple of white clapboard is given the appearance of height.

Stained glass ~~work~~ in diamond-shaped paws in two large windows facing east and south.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

N. R. FIELD SHEET

B. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Pre-Columbian ☐

16th Century ☐

18th Century ☐

20th Century ☐

15th Century ☐

17th Century ☐

19th Century ☒

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Aboriginal ☐

Education ☐

Political ☐

Urban Planning ☐

Prehistoric ☐

Engineering ☐

Religion/Philosophy ☒

Other (Specify) ☐

Historic ☐

Industry ☐

Science ☐

Architecture ☒

Agriculture ☐

Invention ☐

Sculpture ☐

Art ☐

Landscape ☐

Social/Humanitarian ☐

Commerce ☐

Architecture ☐

Theater ☐

Communications ☐

Literature ☐

Transportation ☐

Conservation ☐

Military ☐

Music ☐

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Include Personages, Dates, Events, Etc.)

One of several churches that used the ~~same~~ same building, this was first established in 1821 to serve four denominations. The original building was of logs 36' x 22', and was not torn down until 1948. In 1828 the Quakers moved to Fallston, and the Episcopalians to Kingsville and Bel Air. Members of the Christian church withdrew in the 1830's and the Methodists remained, retaining the name. ~~Methodist~~ About 140 years later the present frame building was put up, largely donated by the Arden family.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

N. R. FIELD SHEET

NA-265

Wright, O. Muller - Our Harford Heritage p217.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN ONE ACRE		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:		
JEAN S. EWING		
ORGANIZATION	DATE	
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST		
STREET AND NUMBER:		
50 STATE CIRCLE		
CITY OR TOWN:	STATE	CODE
ANNAPOLIS	MARYLAND	

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

Name _____

Title _____

Date _____

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date _____

ATTEST:

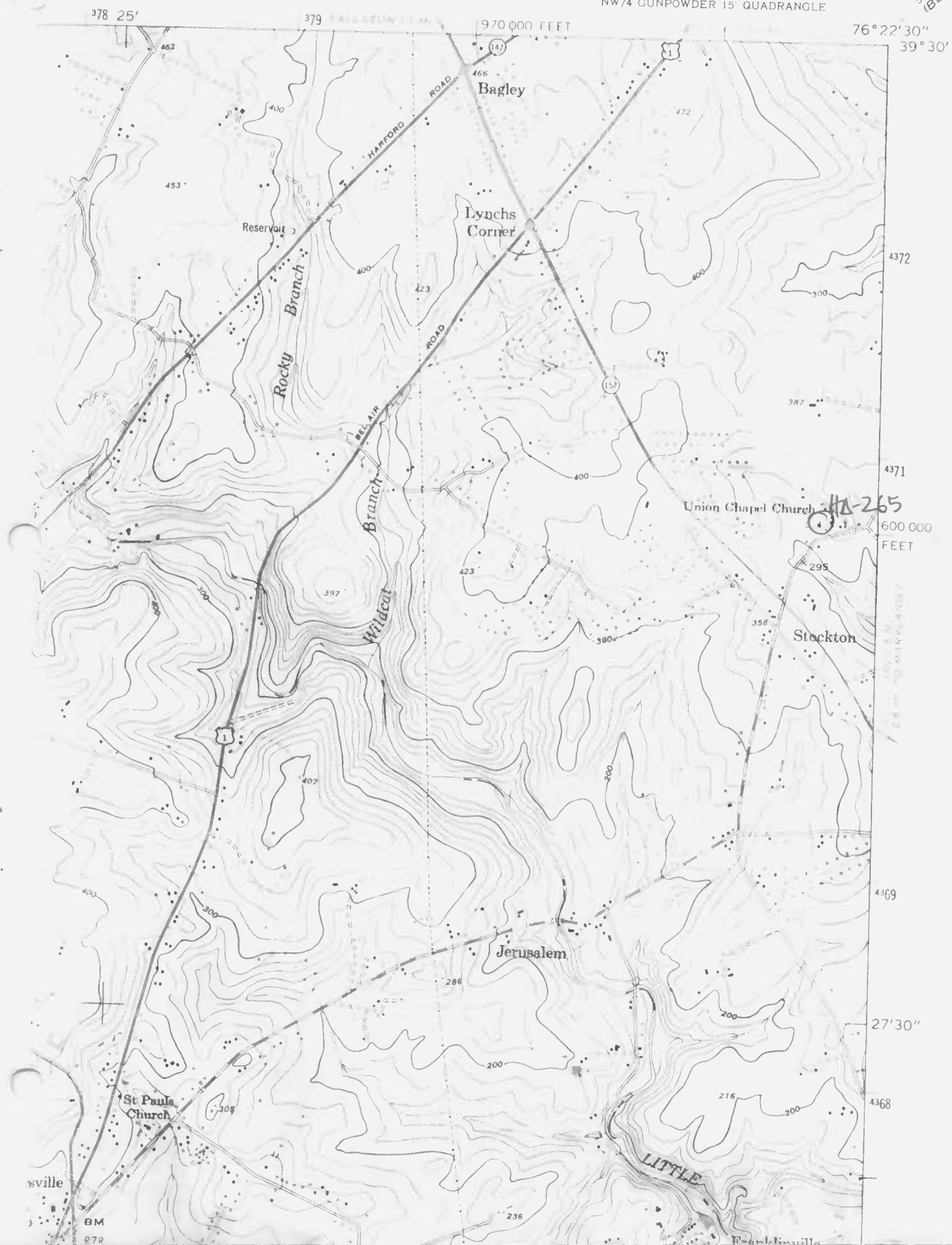
Keeper of The National Register

Date _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

WHITE MARSH QUADRANGLE
MARYLAND
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)
NW/4 GUNPOWDER 15' QUADRANGLE

5763 III SE
(BEL AIR)





UNION CHAPEL
Joppa, Maryland
Natalie Shivers
April, 1980
Northwest

HA-265



HA-265

UNION CHAPEL

JOPPA, MARYLAND 21035

Natalie Shivers

April, 1980

Northeast